

Report Illicit Discharges and Illegal Dumping

Hotline Number: 788-5367 or 788-2444

Storm Drains empty directly into the Chesapeake Bay!!

Fort Monroe asks anyone who witnesses or knows about illicit discharges and/or illegal dumping into storm drains to report the incident. It is everyone's responsibility to help protect the environment. Illicit discharges and illegal dumping are not only *bad* for the environment, they are against the law. All reports will be kept completely confidential and private.

What is an illicit discharge? An illicit discharge is defined as any discharge to the storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of storm water, except for (1) discharges allowed under Fort Monroe's State permit or (2) water used for firefighting operations. If you see an end-pipe continuously flowing into a waterway or storm drain and it hasn't rained, chances are it is an illicit discharge. Illicit discharges can result from failing septic systems or illegal dumping of grass clippings, leaves, chemicals, or trash.

What is an illicit connection? An illicit connection is a pipe or hose leading to a storm sewer drain, which results in a non-stormwater discharge to the system. As a result of these connections, contaminated wastewater enters into the storm drain. Illicit connections may be intentional or unintentional but must be stopped.

Why is this important? Fort Monroe is dedicated to lessening the impacts of its activities on the sensitive waters of the Chesapeake Bay. Storm drains flow directly into the Bay **without any pre-treatment or filtration**. For example, if someone is illegally dumping oil into the storm drain it travels, untreated, directly into Mill Creek or the Chesapeake Bay.

If you don't report it, who will?